

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ADDIS 01847 141827Z

42

ACTION AF-04

INFO OCT-01 SCS-01 SCA-01 SSO-00 SS-14 L-02 H-01 INR-05

CIAE-00 PPT-01 NSC-05 NSCE-00 DODE-00 INRE-00 ISO-00

/035 W

----- 038729

O 141739Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 3189

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 1847

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS PFOR CASC ET US (HANNA, RICHARD)

SUBJECT: HANNA CASE: ESPIONAGE AND OTHER CHARGES ARE FILED

REF: ADDIS ABABA 0911 AND PREVIOUS

1. CONS OFF VISITED SUBJECT MON AND WED, FEB 10 AND 12 ACCOMPANIED BY ATTORNEY ATO SHIBRU SEIFU. AT WED MEETING, ATTORNEY WAS ALLOWED TO SPEAK TO HANNA ALONE AND WAS TOLD THAT PRELIMINARY HEARING WOULD BE THUR MORN, FEB 13, AT WHICH TIME FORMAL CHARGES WOULD BE FILED. HANNA ALSO GAVE ATTORNEY LENGTHY HANDWRITTEN DOCUMENTS WHICH EXPLAINED CIRCUMSTANCES OF HIS ARREST IMPRISONMENT AND INTERROGATION DURING 34 DAYS. HE ALSO GAVE US, FOR THE FIRST TIME, AN INDICATION OF THE CONTENTS OF THE STATEMENT WHICH HE HAD SIGNED THE PREVIOUS WEEK. HE TOLD THAT THE STATEMENT HAD TO BEGIN WITH THE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT BY HIM THAT HE WAS AWARE OF THE FACT THAT THE DOCUMENT COULD BE USED AS EVIDENCE AGAINST HIM IN COURT. HE TYPED THE STATEMENT HIMSELF, SOME 23 LEGAL SIZED PAGES, WHICH INCLUDED THE FOLLOWING: (1) AN AUTOBIOGRAPHY (2) FRIENDS HE HAD IN ASMARA (3) FRIENDS HE HAD IN ADDIS (HANNA HAD INDICATED IN EARLIER CONVERSATION THAT HE BELIEVED HE HAD BEEN WATCHED FOR SOME TIME AS AUTHORITIES KNEW NAMES OF FRIENDS WHO HAD LONG SINCE DEPARTED ETHIOPIA) (4) MONEY TRANSACTIONS HE HAD HAD BASED ON MEMORY (5) MONEY TRANSACTIONS SINCE 1964 BASED ON
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ADDIS 01847 141827Z

RECORDS WHICH THE AUTHORITIES HAD FOUND IN A SEARCH OF HIS APART-

MENT (6) GUNS AND RELATED ITEMS FOUND IN HIS POSSESSION (7) AN ACCOUNTING OF ITEMS RELATED TO RADIOS (8) AN ACCOUNTING OF MONEY AND EXPENSES (9) EFFORTS HE HAD MADE TO GET A WORK PERMIT, ETC.

2. EMBASSY CONTACTED MOFA (AMERICAN AFFAIRS DIRECTOR) AND RELAYED GIST FOREGOING. DIRECTOR SAID HE WOULD PURSUE MATTER PER UNDERSTANDING REACHED EARLIER (ADDIS 738, PARA2G), MATTER RAISED AGAIN WITH DIRECTOR FEB 14 (BEFORE EFORE INFO IN PARA 3 BELOW AVAILABLE) AND DIRECTOR SAID HE WAS BEING STONEWALLED BY PUBLIC SECURITY AUTHORITIES.

3. CONS OFF APPEARED AT COURT MORN FEB 13 AND WAS TOLD CASE WOULD NOT COME UP FOR ABOUT 2 HOURS. OFF RETURNED TO EMB AND WENT BACK TO COURT AT DESIGNATED TIME BUT CASE HAD ALREADY BEEN HEARD AND ATTORNEY AHD LEFT. CONS OFF UNABLE TO REACH ATTORNEY UNTIL FRI AFT, FEB 14, IN ORDER TO ASCERTAIN CHARGES. CHARGES FILED AGAINST HANNA ARE AS FOLLOWS:

1. ESPIONAGE FOR THE U.S. GOVERNMENT AGAINST THE ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT.

2. ILLEGAL DEALING IN FOREIGN EXCHANGE

3. ILLEGAL RESIDENCE IN ETHIOPIA

4. POSSESSION OF ILLEGAL ARMS

HANNA'S ATTORNEY INFORMED US HE HAD ADVISED HANNA TO PLEAD NOT GUILTY TO THESE CHARGES IF LATTER PUT FORWARD IN ONE PACKAGE. OTHERWISE, IF CHARGES CONSIDERED INDIVIDUALLY, DEFENDANT'S PLEA TO BE DEFERRED.

4. HANNA IS HOLDER OF AN OFFICIAL PASSPORT PRESUMABLY ISSUED IN CONJUNCTION WITH HIS TEACHING POSITION AT THE AMERICAN SCHOOL, KAGNEW STATION, ASMARA. DEPT REQUESTED TO VERIFY THE ABOVE WITH PASSPORT OFFICE. WE UNABLE TO OBTAIN NUMBER AS PASSPORT BEING HELD BY AUTHORITIES AS EVIDENCE. HANNA ALSO STATED THAT HE PRESENTLY ON QUOTE OFFICIAL LEAVE UNQUOTE SINCE CLOSURE OF KAGNEW SCHOOL. IF POSSIBLE, PLEASE VERIFY AND ADVISE US HIS PAST AND PRESENT OFFICIAL STATUS WITH DOD.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 ADDIS 01847 141827Z

5. NEXT COURT APPEARANCE SAT FEB15 AT WHICH TIME ATTORNEY HAS STATED HE WILL ATTEMPT OBTAIN CLARIFICATION OF CHARGES AND EXPLANATION OF CERTAIN WORDS AND PHRASES IN THE AMHARIC. NO DEFENSE WILL BE PRESENTED AT THIS TIME AS ATTORNEY WILL THEN WANT TO STUDY CHARGES BEFORE PREPARING LINE OF DEFENSE.

6. EMBASSY ATTEMPTING CONTACT FONMIN AND MOD AND HAS SPONKEN TO CHIEF PUBLIC SECURITY(WHO PROFESSED NOT TO KNOW THAT DEFENDANT

WOULD BE TRIED) TO MAKE FOLLOWING POINTS:

A. EMBASSY REGRETS THAT UNDERSTANDING SUGGESTED BY MOFA
AND AGREED BY US WAS NOT IMPLEMENTED.

B. USG MAY TAKE SERIOUS VIEW OF SUCH CHARGES,
WHICH WILL REACH IT ABOUT SAME TIME AS MAJOR EPMG
ASSISTANCE REQUESTS FOR ASMARA.

C. AT MINIMUM, EMBASSY REQUESTS DEFERRAL OF FURTHER
COURT PROCEEDINGS PENDING AN OPPORTUNITY FOR QUIET
DISCUSSION OF CASE AS ORIGINALLY PROPOSED BY MOFA.

7. ABOVE POINTS HAVE NOW BEEN MADE TO MOD WHO SAID HE WOULD CONSULT
TO SEE WHAT MIGHT BE DONE.

8. POSTSCRIPT. MOFA HAS JUST INFORMED US THAT FOREIGN
MINISTER HAS CONTACTED JUSTICE MINISTER AND THAT HANNAH'S CASE
WILL NOT RPT NOT COME TO COURT TOMORROW. MOFA INTENDS DISCUSS CASE
WITH US TOMORROW.
WYMAN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DETENTION, ARRESTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 FEB 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975ADDIS01847
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750054-0953
From: ADDIS ABABA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750244/aaaabmsg.tel
Line Count: 136
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: ADDIS ABABA 0911 AND PREVIOUS
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: KelleyW0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 AUG 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25 AUG 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <10 DEC 2003 by KelleyW0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: HANNA CASE: ESPIONAGE AND OTHER CHARGES ARE FILED
TAGS: PINS, PFOR, CASC, ET, US, (HANNA, RICHARD)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006